

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

17-38

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 6, 2007

To recognize Charlotte Brookins-Hudson for her 30 years of outstanding and distinguished public service to the people and government of the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, from April 1995 until her retirement on January 2, 2007, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson served as the General Counsel to the Council, making her the Council's longest-serving General Counsel since the establishment of Home Rule;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson has been a member of the District of Columbia Bar for over 25 years and a government employee for 30 years;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson earned a bachelor's degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and a law degree from Georgetown University Law Center;

WHEREAS, while a student at Georgetown University Law Center, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson began her government service by working in the United States Attorney's Office and at the United States Department of Justice in the Lands Division, both in Washington, D.C.;

WHEREAS, for 5 years, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson was an attorney in the Office of the Solicitor, United States Department of Labor, where she issued opinions interpreting various statutory and regulatory provisions and litigated cases in federal district and appellate courts and administrative forums throughout the United States;

WHEREAS, for 2 years, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson served as an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Civil Division of the Office of the Corporation Counsel for the District of Columbia, where she litigated cases on behalf of the District in local and federal district courts;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson also served for 7 years as an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the Appellate Division of the Office of the Corporation Counsel, where she defended decisions of District of Columbia boards and agencies, and litigated civil and criminal appeals in the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and the United States.

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Court of the Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson served 4 years as the Legislative Counsel in the Council's Office of General Counsel prior to being appointed as General Counsel in 1995;

WHEREAS, throughout her 12 years as General Counsel, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson was outstanding in the performance of her primary duty of providing legal advice to the Members of the Council, and impressed the Members, government officials, judges, members of the private bar, and the general public with her vast knowledge of District laws, the District's Charter, the parameters of the powers of the Council, Congressional appropriations, ethics, and parliamentary procedures;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson worked diligently in educating the public as well as other governmental bodies about District laws, the District's unique legislative process, and the parameters of the Council's powers under the District of Columbia Home Rule Act through oral and written opinions, training sessions, lectures, and other forms of communication;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson always maintained her impeccable professional demeanor and high ethical standards while serving in the fast-paced, highly charged atmosphere of the Council;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson developed and maintained an outstanding, comprehensive legislative drafting training program that not only served to orient new Council staffers to the intricacies of drafting legislation in the District, but also proved invaluable to employees from agencies throughout the District government, as evidenced by the fact that her seminars on the subject were always filled to capacity;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson was so highly regarded as an authority on drafting legislation that she was called upon to lecture on the subject at the David A. Clarke School of Law every year since 1992;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson was able to successfully defend many legal actions against the Council, utilizing existing limited resources, while still timely meeting all the other pressing legal needs of the Council;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson continually sought to improve upon the work products produced by the Office of the General Counsel, including her initiating, in 1995, the publication of a newsletter, *Legalese*, that has continued to provide useful information not only to the Members of the Council and their staffs, but to many outside the Council;

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WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson oversaw the recodification of the District's laws with the publication of the 2001 edition of the District of Columbia Official Code, which marked the eighth time that a compilation of the laws of the District of Columbia has been published by, or under the authority of, the government of the District of Columbia or that of the United States;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson selected, trained, and supervised a staff in the Office of the General Counsel that adhered to the highest standards of excellence in legal writing, research, analysis, and oral advocacy;

WHEREAS, under her leadership, the Office of the General Counsel consistently received praise from Members of the Council and officials from the executive branch of the District government, as well as from members of the private bar, judges, and members of the general public;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson set the highest of standards for the attorneys she supervised through her driven work ethic, her attention to detail, and her exceptional ability to engage in multi-tasking, and consistently fostered an environment in which those attorneys could flourish while functioning as a team;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson has been an active member of the D.C. Affairs Section of the D.C. Bar, having served as Chair of the D.C. Bar - D.C. Affairs Section Legislation Committee from 1999 until 2000, as Vice-Chair of the Legislation Committee, and 2 terms as an elected member of the Steering Committee of the D.C. Affairs Section of the D.C. Bar, and was nominated by members of the D.C. Affairs Section for the Beatrice Rosenberg Award for Excellence in Government Service;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson has been actively involved in her Ward 7 Hillcrest neighborhood, having served as President and Past President of her Westover Drive, Southeast community association and currently serves as Lead Block Captain for her neighborhood;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson has been a mentor to young lawyers and lay persons, many of whom she has encouraged to pursue a career in law;

WHEREAS, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson served for over a decade as a Uniform Law Commissioner, participating in the drafting of legislation to be adopted by all states; and

WHEREAS, on January 2, 2007, Charlotte Brookins-Hudson retired from the Council of the District of Columbia following a career in the federal and District government of 30 years, and will be honored on March 16, 2007, by family, friends, government officials and former

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officials, former colleagues, and members of the District's legal community.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Charlotte Brookins-Hudson Distinguished Career in Public Service to the District of Columbia Recognition Resolution of 2007".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia takes this opportunity to recognize Charlotte Brookins-Hudson for her 30 years of outstanding and distinguished public service to the people and government of the District of Columbia, including her 12 years of outstanding service to the Council as its General Counsel.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.